

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
BYRON BERNARD, B.B., BOON

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the memory of Byron Bernard, B.B., Boon, of Linden, Texas. Mr. Boon was born January 10, 1919, in Carterville, Texas, to Andrew Camp Boon and Eudora Kerr Boon.

B.B. attended East Texas Teachers College with my wife Mary Ellen. He began his career teaching school at Warren Springs. He later became principal at Almira Schools, and from 1940 to 1941 supervised the National Youth Administration in Linden.

He joined the Army on Christmas Day in 1941 and entered the Army Air Corps on the 12th of January in 1942. B.B. ferried all types of airplanes throughout the United States and Canada. He flew BT-13s, AT-6s, B-17s, B-24s, B-25s, P-51s and was involved in the moving of troops and cargo. One of his flying assignments was to keep the route from Alaska to the Hudson Bay open so the Germans could not get a foothold in Newfoundland.

Between 1947 and 1949, he was an instructor in the Pilot's Aircraft Instrument Training School at Barksdale AFB in Shreveport, Louisiana. On one particular flight to Richmond, Virginia, his plane caught on fire. True to his sense of humor, he announced "Byron Bernard Boon says bail out boys, she's burning." All the crew bailed out, and everyone survived.

On February 2, 1949, he was in a midair collision at Barksdale AFB, was critically injured and spent over a year of rehabilitation in Walter Reed Hospital. Captain Boon married Louise Bozeman in the chapel at Walter Reed Hospital on September 24, 1949. Shortly after their marriage he was forced to retire from the Air Force due to injuries sustained in the crash.

In October 1950, B.B. returned to Cass County and bought an insurance agency in Linden. He became active in the community, serving various community and church boards. He was a member of the Linden Masonic Lodge #192, a Shriner, a member of the Linden Lions Club, Linden Chamber of Commerce, former mayor of Linden and served on the Linden Municipal Hospital Board of Directors. He was also an avid pilot, owning and flying airplanes until he was 80.

He is survived by two daughters and one son-in-law, Sue and Larry Hill and Brenda Deming all of Linden; five grandchildren and spouses, Tanya and Kenneth Recer and Chris and Sonya Hill of Longview, Tammy and Andy Kozsuch of Tyler, Justin and Kim Deming of Pflugerville and Jonathan and Katherine Deming of Mesquite; seven great-grandchildren, Ryan Recer, Seth Kozsuch, Sarah Kozsuch, Kate Kozsuch, Kaden Kozsuch, Emma Hill and Payton Deming; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, please join me in a final salute to Captain Byron Bernard Boone, a man who gave so much to his family, his community and his country.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SONOMA CITY HALL

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague Congressman MIKE THOMPSON to honor the 100th anniversary of the Sonoma City Hall. This iconic building has long stood as a symbol of the unique community that is the city of Sonoma.

City Hall sits in the center of the 8-acre Sonoma Plaza, the largest town square in the State of California. Dedicated on September 7, 1908, the city hall was built using local basalt stone and originally designed with four identical facades, allowing merchants from any side of the square to boast that city hall faced their business.

Surrounding the city hall on Sonoma Plaza are many historical buildings, including the Mission San Francisco Solana, Captain Salvador Vallejo's Casa Grande, the Presidio of Sonoma, the Blue Wing Inn, the Sebastiani Theatre, and the Toscano Hotel. Not far from city hall, on the northeast corner of the plaza, John C. Fremont led the Bear Flag Revolt in 1846, which would lead to California becoming the 31st State 4 years later. The plaza has been a National Historic Landmark since 1960 and still serves as the town's focal point, hosting many community festivals and drawing tourists all year round.

In honor of this anniversary, City of Sonoma Historian George McKale has organized a commemoration committee to help celebrate this event with the community. Over the last year, members of the committee have arranged for a photo exhibition, as well as sponsoring a poster contest for local students, a lecture series, and a historic quarry hike, all to honor Sonoma's City Hall.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge the 100th anniversary of Sonoma City Hall. In years to come, this beautiful and historic structure will continue to be one of the most memorable images of the city of Sonoma to residents and visitors alike.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF SONOMA CITY HALL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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TO COMMEMORATE THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF OUR LADY OF SORROWS CHURCH IN GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. EHLERS. Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to rise today in commemoration of the 100th anniversary of Our Lady of Sorrows Church in Grand Rapids, Michigan. On Saturday, September 13, 2008, a centennial dinner will celebrate this extraordinary milestone, and it is a privilege to recognize and honor Rev. Theodore J. Kozlowski and the congregation of this remarkable church for the model of Christian service and the beacon of hope they have offered to the Grand Rapids community over the past century.

From the first mass celebrated on September 20, 1908, by their young energetic priest, Father Salvatore Cianci, Our Lady of Sorrows was founded primarily to provide for the growing Italian community in Grand Rapids. Meeting in the basement chapel of St. Andrew's Cathedral, this fledgling church offered the opportunity for Italians to worship and continue their faithful prayer life in the language of their childhood. Through the devoted efforts of Fr. Cianci and the small but very dedicated congregation, a dream became reality on Easter Sunday 1921, when a new structure intended as a temporary church, and also a second building intended to house a future school, were blessed and dedicated. Even though the Great Depression prevented the parish from fulfilling its dream of a permanent house of worship for almost 40 years, Our Lady of Sorrows School did open its doors for the first time on September 25, 1922, with 56 students in attendance. Certainly this was an exceptional accomplishment for a church which originated from the hard work and perseverance of just a handful of Italian immigrant families.

A long, faith-filled journey has led the congregation of Our Lady of Sorrows to now carry out the same legacy of their Italian forefathers for the growing Hispanic population in our community. Today, as this parish reaches out to each member and to a larger, more diverse community with loving acts of kindness, they continue to enrich and inspire those who are touched by their works. Our Lady of Sorrows is well known and widely respected for bringing a greater understanding of all cultures within the Catholic Church to others throughout the greater Grand Rapids area.

This extraordinary anniversary reminds all of us that wonderful things do happen when we seek to serve and glorify God. Reflecting on the many struggles and joys Our Lady of Sorrows has faced during its first century of service to the Lord, it is the perfect time to reaffirm and strengthen our own faith, recognize the call to reach out to others, and share the power of God's love. I am proud to represent the many parishioners of various races and ethnic groups who call Our Lady of Sorrows their church home, and am grateful to this congregation for their illuminating example of God's kindness. I am honored to extend my best wishes for a memorable, grace-filled celebration of a century of caring concern and service to the Grand Rapids community.

HONORING THE PUBLIC SERVICE
OF HAMMER RESIDENCES

HON. JIM RAMSTAD

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. RAMSTAD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize all the good people at Hammer Residences, who have come to Washington, DC, to take part in the American Network of Community Options and Resources (ANCOR) 2008 Governmental Activities Seminar and "DSPs to DC" events.

Hammer Residences is working in my district to provide direct support and services to individuals with disabilities of all ages. Hammer employs 300 direct support professionals who provide a range of supports services 7 days a week, 24 hours a day, to help further the public policy goal of enabling people with mental and physical disabilities to live and work in their community. This outstanding, highly trained, highly skilled and highly committed workforce supports over 400 people with disabilities in our community.

Hammer's services include residential and in-home services, case management and other support services for both children and adults with disabilities.

For most of this week, people from Hammer Residences and all the attendees at ANCOR's events are meeting with their congressional offices. They are discussing the deepening workforce crisis threatening the quality of support services to people with disabilities throughout the Nation.

Without an adequately paid, trained and dedicated workforce, Americans with disabilities and their families face a less secure future. Without the necessary workforce, providers cannot help our nation fulfill its commitment to people with disabilities embodied in the Americans with Disabilities Act and the U.S. Supreme Court's Olmstead decision.

I applaud the people at Hammer Residences for taking a lead on this workforce issue. This is problem-solving at its best, and I encourage all of my colleagues to examine their commitment to providing the best support possible to people with disabilities in their districts.

There is no better way to recognize this workforce's contribution to the Nation than to ensure that these dedicated direct support professionals are fairly compensated. I ask that my colleagues join me in cosponsoring the bipartisan Direct Support Professionals Fairness and Security Act (H.R. 1279) and urging hearings on this important issue in the coming weeks.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LEONARD
BRENT "BUD" DOGGETT

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a true servant of the greater Washington, DC, region, Leonard Brent "Bud" Doggett.

Bud Doggett was a lifelong resident of the District of Columbia, a leading entrepreneur and philanthropist, and a tireless advocate for a thriving Capital region. Bud was a trusted advisor to both local and Federal elected officials in the District, northern Virginia, and Maryland. As a representative of northern Virginia, I have always believed that you cannot have a healthy region without a healthy Washington; Bud's lifetime of achievement did much to further this goal.

Bud was born on August 25, 1920, and attended Georgetown Prep. Upon graduation, he joined the Army, served in Europe as a World War II infantryman, and was awarded the Bronze Star for heroic actions.

After the war, he returned home and joined the parking business founded by his parents in 1926, working with local businesses and the downtown community to develop a comprehensive plan for parking in the city. During the following years, Bud served as founder and president of both the Washington Parking Association and the National Parking Association, which now boasts more than 1,200 corporate members.

Bud was also a past president and active member of the Greater Washington Board of Trade for more than 50 years, during which he helped develop large segments of the District and secured employment for many in the community's disadvantaged populations. His support was crucial to such Washington landmarks as the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and the old Washington Convention Center, heralded as the country's fourth largest after it was completed in 1982.

One of Bud's greatest legacies continues today. In 1964, he founded Heroes, Inc., a group of local business leaders who without fanfare have provided millions of dollars to families of police officers and firefighters in the greater Washington area who died in the line of duty.

Heroes, Inc., currently is committed to providing full college scholarships, including tuition, room and board, books, supplies and many other incidental costs, to the 192 de-

pendents of the 157 Heroes appearing on the organization's Honor Roll form.

I was saddened to learn that Bud Doggett passed away on August 13, 2008, at the age of 87. He will surely be missed, but his place in the region's history and his service to the greater DC area, including its police and fire-fighting heroes, will not soon be forgotten.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF R.E. "EARL" SLAUGHTER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 8, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory and accomplishments of a man who dedicated his life to the health and well being of others, R.E. "Earl" Slaughter of Rockwall.

Earl was born December 6, 1925, in Edgewood to John Arthur, Sr., and Flora Anne (Cox) Slaughter. He was a 1943 graduate of Edgewood High School and a 1949 graduate of the University of Texas School of Pharmacy. He served his country honorably in the United States Army Air Corps during World War II.

Earl married Yvonne McMurray on September 14, 1947, in Denton. Their marriage produced five wonderful children, Cathy Slaughter who lives in Rockwall, Betsy Blundell of Rowlett, Richard Slaughter of Rockwall, Scott Slaughter of Austin, and Dean Slaughter who lives in The Colony.

For 5 decades Earl operated what was the only pharmacy in Rockwall—Rockwall Drug. He and his brother E.K. acquired the business about 3 years after it opened on the square in downtown Rockwall. Then, Rockwall was a small rural community and Earl was a lifeline for so many people. In the beginning he opened the pharmacy at 7 a.m. and stayed open until 10 p.m. Many nights he would return after hours to fill emergency prescriptions.

Rockwall Pharmacy and Earl Slaughter were at the center of most things that happened in Rockwall. With a storefront so close to the Rockwall County courthouse, its employees and elected officials would gather at the fountain before work, at lunch, and after work to discuss the day's events.

Earl was also deeply involved with his community and civic affairs. He was a member of the Texas Pharmacy Association for more than 50 years. He was the past president of the Rockwall Independent School District and the Chamber of Commerce. He was on the City Planning/Zoning Board, and received the Soroptimist Man of the Year Award in 2003. He was also active in the American Legion and Lions Club. Earl believed in sharing his faith and was a member of the First United Methodist Church in Rockwall.

Madam Speaker, one of Earl's former employees summed it up best when she said that Earl helped people every way he could.

I count it an honor to have been friends with this great public servant and his wonderful family. What our world needs today are a few more Earl Slaughters. Please join me today as we honor his memory and celebrate his life's accomplishments.